



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
February 27, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.
by
Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor
and
Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 1440 HD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1440 HD1.

The Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy & Ready to Learn Program (HK Program), a partnership between the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) and University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing (UH Mānoa Nursing), is supporting the DOE to achieve student, school, and system success by building school based health services. This effort is a safety net partnership to increase access to healthcare for a vulnerable population – pre-kindergarten to high school keiki – by providing school health nursing and primary care services in the public schools. The goal is building a fiscally sustainable healthcare delivery model using public funding, cost recovery, and community engagement to moderate the impact of social determinants of health of children attending public schools. Further, we know that academic success leads to economic achievement - the major determinant of a healthy population.

Through the partnership of two sister public agencies - the DOE and UH Mānoa Nursing, we have a tremendous opportunity to bring health care to the setting where children spend 90% of their day - the public schools can become the gateway to health for children, their families and the school teachers and staff.

The HK Program uses school nurses and advanced practice nurse practitioners (APRNs) to provide evidence based school health services to ensure screening for common conditions, up to date immunizations, and collaboration with community care providers to manage chronic conditions that impact readiness to learn. Further, the program partners with both state agencies and the health care delivery sector to forge innovative partnerships to support building a robust system to improve health and achievement of students, schools, and communities.

Evidence from around the country shows that when a school nurse is present, student attendance improves, as does academic performance. Children spend more time in school (seat time). Additionally, principals and teachers are not called upon to address health concerns and can focus on helping children learn.

The HK Program is working at the school level with parents, teachers, and principals to lead the school wellness plan effort, ensure continuity of care for children with chronic conditions, and provide emergency care on site. As a resource and point of contact for health and wellness in the school, the nurse supports the school community to help children learn. The nurse is the "school health coordinator" for the implementation of an organized approach to school health. We help facilitate health programming in the district and school and between the school and community.

School health programs and policies in Hawai'i have resulted from a wide variety of federal, state and local mandates, regulations, initiatives, and funding streams. The result is a "patchwork" of policies and programs with differing standards, requirements, and populations to be served. In addition, the professionals who oversee the different pieces of the patchwork come from multiple disciplines: education, nursing, social work, psychology, nutrition, and school administration, each bringing specialized expertise, training, and approaches.

The UH Mānoa Nursing is well positioned to build public sector cross agency collaboration to weave the discrete school health efforts into a quilt by engaging with the Department of Health (DOH), Department of Human Services, and DOE schools to:

- Eliminate gaps and reduce redundancies across the many initiatives and funding streams;
- Build partnerships and teamwork among school health and education professionals in the school;
- Build collaboration and enhance communication among public health (DOH), school health (DOE), higher education (University of Hawai'i) and health professionals in the community; and
- Focus efforts on helping students engage in protective, health-enhancing behaviors and avoid risk behaviors.

The legislature is to be applauded for your willingness to invest in the partnership of the DOE and UHM Nursing to improve student success through improved health screening, monitoring, and management of chronic conditions that impact learning.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



February 26th, 2015

Testimony of Elizabeth Anne Hiller Valentin,
Executive Director, PROJECT VISION HAWAI'I

Honorable Chair Representative Sylvia Luke and Vice Chair Scott Y.
Nishimoto
Honorable Members of the House of Representative Finance Committee

Project Vision Hawai'i submits testimony in strong support of the The Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy & Ready to Learn Program (HK Program), a partnership between the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) and University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing (UH Manoa Nursing). The aim of this program is to support the DOE to achieve student, school, and system success by building school based health services. As a program that has worked directly with the HK Program we see incredible value in this service. They serve as a connector between the Department of Health, the Department of Education, Community Organizations, and Hawai'i's families. We believe their survival is necessary for the shaping a sustainable school based health system in Hawai'i.

Evidence from around the country shows that when a school nurse is present, student attendance improves, as does academic performance. Children spend more time in school (seat time). The HK Program is working at the school level with parents, teachers, and principals to lead the school wellness plan effort, ensure continuity of care for children with chronic conditions, and provide emergency care on site. Further, the nurse is the "school health coordinator" for the implementation of an organized approach to school health. The HK Program helps facilitate health programming in the district and school and between the school and community by offering:

- ☐ Increased productivity and efficiency: School nurses allow for other staff to focus on their expertise. Principals are not called upon to address health concerns. Teachers can focus on teaching. Administrative staff are not pulled away to call parents or caregivers or sending home sick children.
- ☐ Enhanced collaborative practice: Nurses who specialize in school health have a unique skill set equipped to serve our keiki, develop processes and



procedures to enhance school health aide's services in the school, and engage in population health improvement within the school environment.

☐ Improved access to care: School nurses serve as the first contact for many students and improve timeliness of referrals to needed health care services.

Project Vision Hawai'i supports HB1440 HD1. The Hawaii Keiki Program, with its partnership with DOE and UH Mānoa Nursing will improve student success through improved health screening, monitoring, and management of chronic conditions that impact learning. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo nui loa,

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Elizabeth "Annie" Hiller Valentin, MPH

Executive Director
PROJECT VISION HAWAII
PO Box 23212
Honolulu, HI 96823
(808)-282-2265
www.projectvisionhawaii.org

Kelley Withy, MD, PhD
571 Kaimalino St, Kailua, HI 96734

Written Testimony in Support of SB113
To Senate Health Committee
2/13/2015

I am writing to offer testimony in strong support of **HB1440 HD1** for the Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy & Ready to Learn Program (HK Program), a partnership between the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) and University of Hawai'i at

Mānoa School of Nursing (UH Manoa Nursing). The aim of this program is to support the DOE to achieve student, school, and system success by building school based health services.

Evidence from around the country shows that when a school nurse is present, student attendance improves, as does academic performance. Children spend more time in school (seat time). The HK Program is working at the school level with parents, teachers, and principals to lead the school wellness plan effort, ensure continuity of care for children with chronic conditions, and provide emergency care on site. Further, the nurse is the "school health coordinator" for the implementation of an organized approach to school health. The HK Program helps facilitate health programming in the district and school and between the school and community by offering:

- Increased productivity and efficiency: School nurses allow for other staff to focus on their expertise. Principals are not called upon to address health concerns. Teachers can focus on teaching. Administrative staff are not pulled away to call parents or caregivers or sending home sick children.
- Enhanced collaborative practice: Nurses who specialize in school health have a unique skill set equipped to serve our keiki, develop processes and procedures to enhance school health aide's services in the school, and engage in population health improvement within the school environment.
- Improved access to care: School nurses serve as the first contact for many students and improve timeliness of referrals to needed health care services.

The Hawaii Keiki Program, with it's partnership with DOE and UH Mānoa Nursing will improve student success through improved health screening, monitoring, and management of chronic conditions that impact learning. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo for your support!

finance1-Kim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 8:13 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: burgharc@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1440 on Feb 27, 2015 11:00AM

HB1440

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 27, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| cheryl | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Providing funds for keiki in need.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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finance1-Kim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 10:56 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kaanaana@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1440 on Feb 27, 2015 11:00AM*

HB1440

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 27, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Shawna L. Kaanaana | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

Katherine Moyer, Registered Nurse

Friday, February 27, 2015

Strong Support for HB 1440, HD1, Relating to Education

I am a master's prepared school health nurse working in the Kailua-Kalaheo and the Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani complex areas. I submit testimony in strong support of the Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy & Ready to Learn Program (HK Program), a partnership between the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) and University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing (UH Mānoa Nursing). This bill would help to ensure the HK Program continues to support the DOE to achieve student, school, and system success by building school based health services.

Evidence from around the country shows that when a school nurse is present, student attendance improves, as does academic performance. Children spend more time in school (seat time). The HK Program is working at the school level with parents, teachers, and principals to lead the school wellness plan effort, ensure continuity of care for children with chronic conditions, and provide emergency care on site. Further, the nurse is the "school health coordinator" for the implementation of an organized approach to school health. The HK Program helps facilitate health programming in the district and school and between the school and community by offering:

- Increased productivity and efficiency: School nurses allow for other staff to focus on their expertise. Principals are not called upon to address health concerns. Teachers can focus on teaching. Administrative staff are not pulled away to call parents or caregivers or sending home sick children.
- Enhanced collaborative practice: Nurses who specialize in school health have a unique skill set equipped to serve our keiki, develop processes and procedures to enhance school health aide's services in the school, and engage in population health improvement within the school environment.
- Improved access to care: School nurses serve as the first contact for many students and improve timeliness of referrals to needed health care services.

I strongly support **HB1440 HD1**. The Hawaii Keiki Program, with its partnership with DOE and UH Mānoa Nursing, will improve student success through improved health screening, monitoring, and management of chronic conditions that impact learning. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Katherine Moyer, Registered Nurse

I, Justin J. Pequeño, submit this testimony in strong support of the Hawai‘i Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn Program (HK Program), partnership between the Hawai‘i Department of Education and the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa School of Nursing.

As an educator and community member of the Wai‘anae Coast, I have seen firsthand how the HK Program’s placement of an advanced pediatric nurse practitioner at Nānāikapono Elementary has resulted in increased attendance and student participation in school. Additionally, there are many ways that the HK Program has contributed to an increase in capacity in the following areas:

- Efficiency at the school: Teachers can refer their students to an on-site health professional instead of either addressing students’ issues themselves or not addressing them at all. Principals and administrative staff no longer have to interrupt their duties to solve health-related issues. Lastly, students *know* who can help them out. The kuleana of school staff is actually better defined and delegated through the HK Program.
- School-community partnerships and outreach: As a site-based school health coordinator, the nurse is able to facilitate and coordinate the involvement of local non-profit organizations and medical services at the school. Also, the nurse is able to communicate with students and their families to examine the root causes of existing problems. This not only increases access of much needed services and programs, but it creates a pipeline for families and services to be in sync with one another. Any principal can describe in great detail how difficult this is to accomplish.

I believe that the Hawai‘i Keiki Program, with its partnership with the DOE and UH Mānoa Nursing, will lead to student improvement and create a thriving community by accurately addressing conditions that impact learning. I support HB1440 HD1 and the appropriation of funds to allow for continued successes of the Hawai‘i Keiki Program.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,
Justin J. Pequeño

LATE

| The _____ Bryscen Prothero, APRN submits testimony in strong support of the The Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy & Ready to Learn Program (HK Program), a partnership between the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) and University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing (UH Manoa Nursing). The aim of this program is to support the DOE to achieve student, school, and system success by building school based health services.

Evidence from around the country shows that when a school nurse is present, student attendance improves, as does academic performance. Children spend more time in school (seat time). The HK Program is working at the school level with parents, teachers, and principals to lead the school wellness plan effort, ensure continuity of care for children with chronic conditions, and provide emergency care on site. Further, the nurse is the "school health coordinator" for the implementation of an organized approach to school health. The HK Program helps facilitate health programming in the district and school and between the school and community by offering:

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- Enhanced collaborative practice: Nurses who specialize in school health have a unique skill set equipped to serve our keiki, develop processes and procedures to enhance school health aide's services in the school, and engage in population health improvement within the school environment.
- Improved access to care: School nurses serve as the first contact for many students and improve timeliness of referrals to needed health care services.

| _____ Bryscen Prothero supports HB1440 HD1. The Hawaii Keiki Program, with it's partnership with DOE and UH Mānoa Nursing will improve student success through improved health screening, monitoring, and management of chronic conditions that impact learning. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

LATE

Date: 02/27/2015
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1440, HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program. Requires matching funds. (HB1440 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) strongly supports HB 1440 in appropriating funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program.

The purpose of program is to enhance and build school-based health services to screen for treatable health conditions; provide referral to primary health care and patient centered medical home services; prevent and control communicable disease and other health problems; and provide emergency care for illness or injury.

The proposed measure provides the Department with access to evidence based practice to ensure our students receive quality care services. The academic resources and participating of expert faculty and students provides leverage beyond the actual funding commitments. In just six months, the Department has outcomes that are improving the readiness of children to learn in school. Highlights include: creating detailed profiles of the health status and needs of individual schools; organizing of programs for routine screening, referral and follow-up for easily treatable conditions that impact learning; evidence based standards of care for conditions that impact attendance such as ukus (pediculus humanus capitis); increased collaboration with the Department of Health; and engagement with local providers to improve care for children with chronic conditions.

The Department recognizes that Medicaid funding could be available for school health nursing services and has begun conversations with the Department of Human Services to develop a cost recovery plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

LATE

55 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

HAWAII PACIFIC HEALTH
Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

www.hawaiipacifichealth.org

Friday – February 27 2015 - 11:00 am
Conference Room 308

The House Committee on Finance

To: Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Executive Director, Government Relations & Community Partnerships
Hawai'i Pacific Health

Re: HB 1440, HD1 Relating To Education
Testimony in Support

My name is Michael Robinson, Executive Director for Government Relations & Community Partnerships for Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system, and the state's largest health care provider and non-government employer. It is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four hospitals, more than 50 outpatient clinics and service sites, and over 1,600 affiliated physicians. Hawai'i Pacific Health's hospitals are Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital.

I am writing in support of HB 1440, HD1 which appropriates funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready To Learn program. The program builds and enhances school-based health services that provide screening for treatable health conditions, referral to primary care health care and patient-centered medical home services, prevent and control communicable disease and other health problems, and provide emergency care for illness or injury. These services will be delivered through a public-private partnership between the state, federal government and private entities, thus shifting the financial burden away from the Department of Education. The measure would also relieve school leaders and staff of health-related duties by creating a partnership with the University of Hawaii Schools of Nursing and Health Sciences to improve health promotion and disease management.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OLOMANA SCHOOL
42-522 Kalanianaʻole Highway
Kailua, Hawai'i 96734

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

LATE

Stacey Oshio, Olomana School Principal

Friday, February 27, 2015

Strong Support for HB 1440 HD1, Relating to Education

Olomana School provides educational services to students at the Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF), those detained at the Detention Home (DH), and at the Olomana Youth Center (OYC), which serves at-risk youth from Windward Oahu's secondary schools and also the HYCF youth who are in transit. We strongly support HB 1440 HD1 in appropriating funds for the Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program.

As Olomana School is a unique place with distinctive needs, our Hawai'i Keiki nurse conducted a health needs assessment of our particular site and surveyed parents about their health needs and wants. She used the data from the needs assessment and conversations with school staff to develop interventions specific to our student body.

The Hawai'i Keiki nurse conducts weekly youth development classes with the incarcerated female students. During the interactive classes, she covers topics including communication skills, values, goal-setting, decision-making, healthy relationships, and sexual and reproductive health. She also regularly contributes health articles to our school newsletter, ensures appropriate health screenings for our students, and created a school health profile report, which helped the school identify trends in health room visits throughout the year.

We strongly support this bill to ensure the continuation of this partnership to support our student population and to keep our keiki healthy and ready to learn. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stacey S. Oshio".

Stacey S. Oshio
Principal



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WINDWARD OAHU DISTRICT
46-169 KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY
KANELOHE, HAWAII 96744

LATE

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

Friday, February 27, 2015

Strong Support for HB 1440, HD1, Relating to Education

The Kailua-Kalaheo Complex Area is comprised of 14 schools with more than 6,000 students on the Windward Side of O'ahu. We strongly support HB 1440, HD1 in appropriating funds for the Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program.

The Hawai'i Keiki Program has added tremendous value for Kailua-Kalaheo Schools. The Hawai'i Keiki nurse, based at Olomana, has provided a great deal of individualized student support to a school with a very unique population. For the greater complex area, the Hawai'i Keiki nurse has been focused on development of the 14 school health aides in Kailua-Kalaheo schools. She surveyed the health aides to learn more about what the work of the health aid and typical visits, challenges or concerns related to the varying school health policies. Using the results from the survey, the Hawai'i Keiki nurse began to conduct regular meetings and trainings with the school health aides to enhance their practice. Additionally, she is working with community organizations to ensure that all Kailua-Kalaheo elementary students have access to vision and hearing screenings.

The Kailua-Kalaheo Complex Area strongly supports this bill to ensure the continuation of this partnership to support our student population and to keep our keiki healthy and ready to learn. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.


Suzanne Mulcahy, Kailua-Kalaheo Complex Area Superintendent



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
601 KAMOKILA BOULEVARD, ROOM 588
KAPOLEI, HI 96707

LATE

Date: 2/27/2015
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Ann Mahi, Nanakuli-Waianae Complex Area Superintendent

Title of Bill: HB 1440, HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program. Requires matching funds.

Department's Position:

This is written in strong support of HB 1440 in appropriating funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program.

Addressing health and wellness in our schools has always been a challenge. Upon visiting Cincinnati Olyer Elementary to view their School Based Health Center (SBHC) this past summer with colleagues, it was clear that Hawaii needed to begin efforts to implement such a model. I believe the addition of the Hawaii Keiki advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) in the Nanakuli-Waianae complex area has been a step in the right direction. The pilot program that we have implemented in partnership with the University of Hawaii, School of Nursing has started the initiative by which we can share positive outcomes and hopes for continued support through this legislation.

The environment in which our keiki live and learn is very challenging and the accessibility to health care within the school community would provide the students and their families a means to address proactively, issues such as asthma, vaccinations, childhood obesity, colds/flu and nutrition. All of this to support daily attendance and learning in school.

Chronic absenteeism remains a priority with an average of 25% of our elementary students being identified in this category. One of the goals for the APRN is to develop an action plan that can be utilized not only by schools on the coast but as a model statewide to cut down on absenteeism. The APRN assigned to Nanaikapono Elementary School has assisted Nanakuli-Waianae complex area schools with coordinating various health screenings requested by school administrators such as vision, hearing and dental as these are the first barriers to students being able to learn in the classroom. He provides support for our School Health Aides and has been active in collaborating with the public health nurses to address community health issues. In a community where our members want to make health and wellness a priority but have difficulty doing so, the APRN has reached out through community groups, bulletins, coffee talks, social media, home visits, and parent nights to provide education and

assist families to make those healthier choices.

The APRN at Nanaikapono Elementary has allowed Principal Debra Knight to further her commitment of promoting a healthy lifestyle to all members of her school community and providing the support necessary to be successful. By providing school based health services, they have been able to reduce the number of children sent home from the health room allowing more children to remain in school. Parents are very appreciative of the follow up and proactive nature of the APRN program and have been willing to share concerns and problems that they face with the health care system. The APRN has been a valuable resource in assisting them and connecting them to the appropriate community agency.

If we are to be truly committed to the academic success of the keiki in our schools, we need to also address their health needs and ensure that they receive quality health services. By doing so we give our keiki a better chance at being successful as a student and in life. An APRN on campus will provide that expertise and support that the schools, students, parents and the community need.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

If you are in need of any further information, you may contact me at our office: Phone (808) 692-8000 or email me at ann_mahi@notes.k12.hi.us

LATE

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
February 27, 2015, 11:00 a.m.

by
Bill Arakaki
Kapaa-Kauai-Waimea Complex Area Superintendant

HB 1440, HD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony regarding HB 1440, HD1.

The Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy & Ready to Learn Program (HK Program), has made a large impact in only 6 months. Within this short amount of time we have outcomes that are improving the readiness of children to learn in school. Highlights include: creating a detailed school health profile at Kekaha Elementary and will be working towards all schools island wide; organizing of programs for routine screening, referral and follow-up for easily treatable conditions that impact learning; evidence based standards of care for conditions that impact attendance such as ukus; increased collaboration with the Department of Health; and engagement with local providers to improve care for children with chronic conditions.

Our HK nurse is working at the school and complex level with parents, teachers, and principals to lead the school wellness plan effort, ensure continuity of care for children with chronic conditions, and provide emergency care on site. As a resource and point of contact for health and wellness in the school, the nurse supports the school community to help children learn. The nurse is the "school health coordinator" for the implementation of an organized approach to school health. We help facilitate health programming in the district and school and between the school and community.

I wholeheartedly support this bill and thank the legislature for your continued commitment to student success through improved health screening, monitoring, and management of chronic conditions that impact learning.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA'U/KEA'AU/PAHOA COMPLEX AREA
16-588 KEAAU-PAHOA ROAD
KEAAU, HAWAII 96749

LATE

OFFICE OF THE COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENT

Date: 02/27/2015
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Chad Keone Farias, Kau-Keaaui-Pahoa Complex Area Superintendent

Title of Bill: HB 1440, HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program. Requires matching funds.

The Kau-Keaaui-Pahoa Complex Area strongly supports HB 1440 in appropriating funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program. Our complex area is composed of nine Department of Education (DOE) public schools and is the largest geographical area in the state. We service a total of 5,500 students that are considered a vulnerable population for many reasons. Our keiki deal with a myriad of health conditions and social determinants that make it difficult for them to be successful not only in school but also in life. While academics are important, we realize that in order for a student to be successful in school they have to not only "be present" but healthy and ready to learn as well. School health has always been an area that was sorely lacking for us and we are in much need of continuing this program for that reason.

Last year representatives from our complex area visited Cincinnati, Ohio to view community schools. This showed us that a concerted effort to bring the necessary services to students increased attendance in school and participation in those critical services. Students received primary care services but more importantly preventive care in the school setting eliminating parent priority choices but not parent consent. The overall effort eased the burden on the parents while maximizing the time students were on school campuses.

With the addition of our Hawaii Keiki Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) we have been able to target health as a main priority this year. Our APRN is focused on the health needs that are unique to our community and is making sure to address them in each of our nine DOE public schools. Our APRN has provided much needed access to evidence based practice to ensure our students receive quality health care services. She has acted as a “school health coordinator” to help us develop a more organized approach to school health. In the past six months we have dealt with extenuating circumstances such as Hurricane Iselle, Hurricane Anna and an unrelenting lava flow which has displaced many of our students and families. Despite these life-changing events, we have complex-wide outcomes that are improving the readiness of our already vulnerable children to learn in school. Highlights include: creating a detailed profile of health status and needs of a representative school; organizing complex wide programs for routine screenings with follow-up that may impact learning; updating policies using evidence based standards of care for conditions that impact attendance such as ukus; increasing collaboration with the Department of Health; reviewing sexual health education curriculum within each school; providing hands-only CPR to each school; performing sports physicals for middle school students; developing a resource matrix for health care services; professional development for staff. Our APRN has also assisted with our school health aides in providing on-site support/training for them during the school year.

Having an APRN on our team this year has already helped to improve the health and wellness of our keiki, staff and community in such a short period of time. The continued efforts put forth by the APRN will no doubt continue to complement our efforts in the DOE allowing our keiki to not only show up to school but more importantly show up healthy and ready to learn.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
HONOLULU DISTRICT OFFICE
4967 KILAUEA AVENUE
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816

LATE

February 27, 2015

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

From: Donna Lum Kagawa,
Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani Complex Area Superintendent

SUBJECT: Testimony for Strong Support of HB 1440, HD1, Relating to Education

Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani is the fourth largest complex area in Hawai'i, with more than 15,000 students in 25 schools in urban and east Honolulu. The Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani Complex Area strongly supports HB 1440, HD1 in appropriating funds for the Hawai'i Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program.

The Hawai'i Keiki Program has added a lot of value for Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani schools. One of the primary responsibilities of the Hawai'i Keiki nurse for our complex area is to develop the 24 school health aides and one (1) registered nurse in Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani schools. The Hawai'i Keiki nurse surveyed the health aides to learn more about what is going on in the health rooms and to learn more about the varying school health policies. Using the results from the survey, the Hawai'i Keiki nurse is starting to conduct regular meetings and trainings with the school health aides to enhance their practice.

The Hawai'i Keiki nurse is helping to address chronic absenteeism by helping schools to develop policies that will keep students in school. One particular example is related to ukus (or head lice). Based on the survey results, school health aides identified ukus as the number one health issue at schools and one of the top five reasons students are sent home from the health room. However, there's no statewide school policy on head lice so each Hawai'i public school is left to decide on their own when a student should be sent home. The Hawai'i Keiki nurse is in the process of developing a policy, based on national guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Association of School Nurses, and has begun educating Principals and school health aides.

The Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani Complex Area strongly supports this bill to ensure the continuation of this partnership to support our student population and to keep our keiki healthy and ready to learn. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Sincerely,
Donna Lum Kagawa, Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani Complex Area Superintendent



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NANAIKAPONO ELEMENTARY

89-153 MANO AVENUE
WAIANAE, HAWAII 96804

LATE

Date: 2/27/2015
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education
Person Testifying: Debra Knight, Nanaikapono Elementary School Principal
Title of Bill: HB 1440, HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION
Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program.
Requires matching funds.

The Nanaikapono Elementary Principal strongly supports HB 1440 in appropriating funds for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn program.

Although the focus in our schools are on academics, we as administration and staff know that in order for a child to be successful in school they have to not only be present but ready to learn as well. When one facet of a child's life is out of balance, it affects their overall well-being. Among the myriad of health conditions our children deal with, we also deal with other social determinants that may make it difficult for our keiki to be successful not only in school but also in life.

Nanaikapono Elementary has a student population of 867 students, of which about 90% receive free and reduced lunch. We have scored zero on our Strive HI status for chronic absenteeism for the last two years. That means 41% of our students have missed 15 days or more of school in the 2013-2014 school year and then 32% in the 2014-2015 school year. In assessing the root cause we determined that about one-third of our students had a health condition listed on their emergency cards, mostly asthma, allergies, and other health conditions that kept them out of school. We needed to build a wellness framework into our school academic plan to address our student's needs.

With the addition of our Hawaii Keiki Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN), we have been able to focus on those identified health areas and are now moving in a positive direction towards health and wellness. Through the community health needs assessment conducted by the APRN in the beginning of this school year, we were able to gather valuable information about our students as well as their families and our community. Through the coordination of the APRN, we were able to connect with the necessary providers to assist in addressing these key health issues. Whether it was working with the public health nurses on obtaining emergency action plans for children, assisting the DOH disease branch with tracking the flu, collaborating with local providers from the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center to obtain water bottle filling stations to promote healthy drinks, or partaking in community groups like the Alignment 96792 Health and Wellness committee to make the community a model of health and wellness, the APRN has truly been an invaluable asset for our keiki.

I have provided a very small glimpse of how the addition of the APRN on our campus has been able to improve the health and wellness of our keiki, staff, and community in such a short amount of time. The number of students we are sending home from the health room this year are lower than last year, meaning more children are being able to be seen by the APRN and remain in school. The continued efforts put forth by the APRN will no doubt continue to complement our efforts in the DOE allowing our children to not only show up to school but more importantly being healthy and ready to learn.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.